

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An optical connector comprising:  
a housing provided with a coupling portion for coupling another optical  
5 connector; and  
a blocking component for blocking an optical axis arranged in the  
coupling portion,  
wherein the blocking component has a shutter plate blocking or shading  
the optical axis and being pivotably supported by the housing with a pivot shaft  
10 and an elastic portion for normally biasing the shutter plate to a closed position,  
the shutter plate including an opening in which the elastic portion is disposed,  
the shutter plate pivoting between a position blocking the optical axis and a  
position to which the shutter plate is forced to move by the other optical  
connector when the other optical connector is inserted into the optical connector.
- 15 2. The optical connector according to Claim 1, wherein the elastic  
portion applies a force to the shutter plate at a side of the pivot shaft and an  
opposite side thereof so that the shutter plate is disposed in the position  
blocking the optical axis.
3. The optical connector according to Claim 1, wherein the optical  
20 connector connects a plurality of optical cables.
4. The optical connector according to Claim 1, wherein the other  
optical connector in an optical connector including a plug.
5. The optical connector according to Claim 1, wherein the shutter  
plate and the elastic portion are formed in an integrated structure.
- 25 6. The optical connector according to Claim 1, wherein the shutter  
plate and the elastic portion comprise an identical metal.
7. The optical connector according to Claim 1, wherein the shutter  
plate comprises a resin and is integrally molded with the elastic portion.